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Four 'Massive Nights' with the band in Brooklyn. 12

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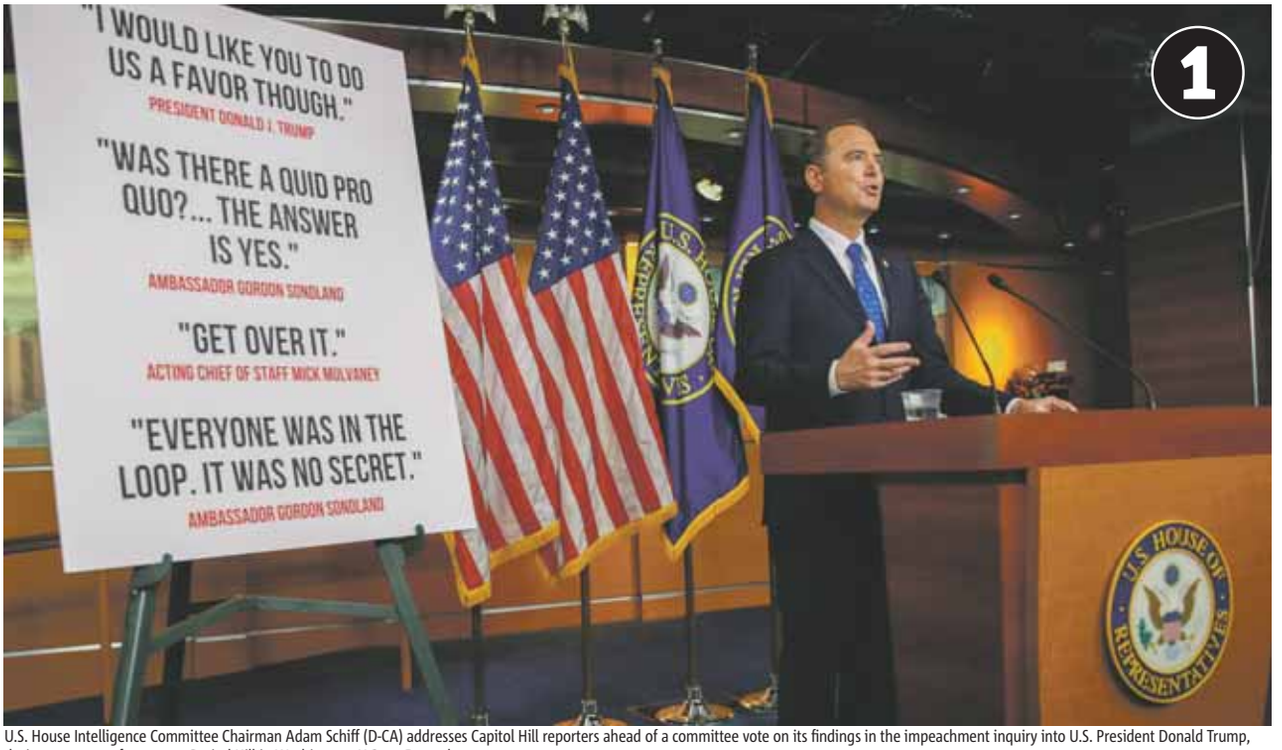
8 THINGS TO KNOW

Democrats accuse Trump of abusing power, obstructing impeachment

Matter will pass to the House Judiciary Committee on Wed.


"I WOULD LIKE YOU TO DO US A FAVOR THOUGH."
PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP
"WAS THERE A QUID PRO QUO?... THE ANSWER IS YES."
AMBASSADOR GORDON SONDLAND
"GET OVER IT."
ACTING CHIEF OF STAFF MICK MULVANEY
"EVERYONE WAS IN THE LOOP. IT WAS NO SECRET."
AMBASSADOR GORDON SONDLAND
1

U.S. House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff (D-CA) addresses Capitol Hill reporters ahead of a committee vote on its findings in the impeachment inquiry into U.S. President Donald Trump, during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, U.S. on December 3, 2019. REUTERS

U.S. President Donald Trump solicited foreign interference to boost his chances of re-election next year, undermined national security and ordered an "unprecedented" campaign to obstruct Congress, Democrats said in a report on Tuesday that will form the basis of any formal impeachment charges against Trump.

In a 300-page report that alleged sweeping abuse of power, the Democratic-led House of Representatives Intelligence Committee said Trump had used U.S. military aid and the prospect of a White House visit to pressure his Ukrainian counterpart to undertake probes that would benefit Trump politically.

The Republican president "placed his own personal and political interests above the national interests of the United States, sought to undermine the integrity of the U.S. presidential election process, and endangered U.S. national security," the report said.

Democrats, who began the formal impeachment inquiry in September, also accused Trump of an "unprecedented" effort to obstruct the investigation, including refusing to provide documents and testimony from his top advisers, unsuccessful attempts to block career government officials from testifying and intimidation of witnesses.

"The evidence of the President's misconduct is overwhelming, and so too is the evidence of his obstruction of Congress," it said, adding that the wrongdoing was "not an isolated occurrence."

In a news conference following the release of the report, House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff described Trump as a "president who believes that he is beyond indictment, beyond impeachment, beyond any form of accountability and indeed above the law."

Trump, who is in London for a NATO summit, has denied any wrongdoing and accused Democrats of using the impeachment process to overturn the results of the 2016 presidential election. Opinion polls show Americans are bitterly divided over whether to impeach Trump.

> **"[Trump] believes that he is beyond indictment, beyond impeachment, beyond any form of accountability and indeed above the law."**
>
> House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff

White House spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said House Democrats had conducted a "one-sided sham process" that had failed to produce any evidence of wrongdoing by Trump.

"This report reflects nothing more than their frustrations. Chairman Schiff's report reads like the ramblings of a basement blogger straining to prove something when there is evidence of nothing," Grisham said in a statement.

After a House Intelligence Committee vote at 6 p.m. EST Tuesday, the matter will then go to the House Judiciary Committee, which will open its proceedings on Wednesday. REUTERS

Officer stabbed, student shot at Wisconsin high school

2 A Wisconsin high school student on Tuesday stabbed a school resource officer, who responded by shooting the teenager, police said, in the second such incident over the last two days in the state. Oshkosh West High School, about 85 miles north of Milwaukee, was put on lockdown after the altercation, Oshkosh Chief of Police Dean Smith said during a news conference. Smith said the student wounded the officer with an "edged" weapon. The officer then fired his gun, shooting the 16-year-old once. Both the student and officer, who were not identified by police, were taken to the hospital where they were being treated for non-life-threatening injuries, Smith said. Smith did not disclose a possible motive. Hours later, the school's 1,700 students were reunited with their parents. REUTERS

Billie Eilish dominates 2019 on Apple Music

3 Newcomer Billie Eilish dominated Apple Music streams in 2019, scoring the top streamed album of the year with "When We Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?," Apple Music said on Tuesday. Eilish, 17, who burst onto the alternative pop scene this year and is nominated for four Grammy Awards in January, came 5th on the list of most streamed songs, with "Bad Guy," Apple Music said in a year-end list. Eilish's "Bad Guy" single also came top of the most Shazamed songs of 2019, the music recognition app owned by Apple said. REUTERS

TONY'S METRO MAGIC 2019

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As we enter the season of giving, Metro asks that you donate to Tony's Metro Magic annual holiday toy drive to help underprivileged children in your community. You can donate by visiting metro.us/magic, clicking on the toy wish-list link of your choice, and ordering via a secure payment system. Toys will then be distributed to local children in need.

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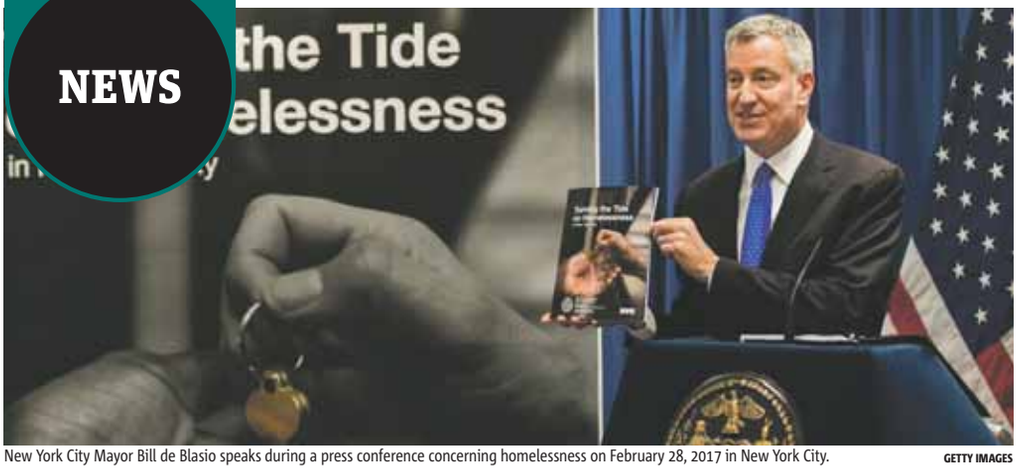

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio speaks during a press conference concerning homelessness on February 28, 2017 in New York City. GETTY IMAGES

Newark is suing New York City and Mayor Bill de Blasio over homeless relocation program

The city of Newark said homeless individuals were placed in uninhabitable conditions.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
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Newark, New Jersey is taking New York City to court over its Special One-Time Assistance (SOTA) program.

The program allegedly relocated homeless New Yorkers into horrible conditions in Newark. NBC reported that the residences are dilapidated and vermin-infested.

The SOTA program started in 2017, with the aim of relocating homeless NYC families across New Jersey's biggest city, with a full year of rent paid upfront by the program.

Newark reports that they are not given notice of when SOTA participants are being relocated from the Big Apple, or to which locations within the city.

NBC reports that the suit – filed Monday in federal court by Newark Mayor Ras Baraka's administration – names Department of Social Services Commissioner Steven Banks and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio. It claims that NYC is violating interstate commerce rules by making families hurriedly sign leases for illegal and uninhabitable apartments.

The lawsuit states that Banks and de Blasio ignored complaints and issues raised by Newark authorities.

Court documents say that Newark believes over 1,000 families were placed in the city. Newark has been able to identify many SOTA recipients who were coerced to move there by being forced to accept "the proverbial 'offer they can't refuse,'" according to court documents. The complaint claims that NYC refused to disclose the identities of all SOTA recipients placed in Newark.

Newark was made aware of the subpar living conditions of SOTA recipients via a complaint made by one individual directly to the city. Recipients claim in the suit that they were moved into homes after only inspecting them for 10 minutes, before being pressured into signing leases. It was also stated that there were major power and heat-related issues in their homes.

Newark is seeking a temporary restraining order against the de Blasio administration to cease the program in Newark. The complaint also asks for a list of families relocated to Newark and the rates they paid their landlords.

Newark is also demanding a fund from New York City to help accommodate those who want to stay in Newark.

Reuters assisted in the writing of this report.

Activist Thunberg channels youth fury to U.N. climate summit

Teen activist Greta Thunberg reached Europe on Tuesday after a 21-day catamaran dash across the Atlantic for a United Nations summit where she will invoke the fury of global youth at politicians' foot-dragging over climate change.

"People are underestimating the force of angry kids," the Swede told a crowd of reporters and supporters as she disembarked from a white catamaran, La Vagabonde, in Portugal.

"They're angry and frustrated."

The prospect of another fiery intervention by the 16-year-old, whose ability to stare down politicians has inspired a global protest movement, electrified younger delegates at the international climate talks underway in neighboring Spain.

Since staging a solitary protest outside the Swedish parliament more than a year ago, Thunberg has channeled the anger felt by millions of teenagers saddled with the prospect of an escalating climate crisis their parents failed to avert.

In September, she carried her message to a one-day climate summit at the United Nations in New York, furiously telling leaders "you have stolen my dreams," before sailing back to Europe for the latest round of talks.

Thunberg was due to spend the rest of Tuesday meeting activists in Portugal before departing for Madrid, where the negotiations are being held in a series of hangar-like halls.

Carolina Schmidt, environment minister of Chile, which is chairing the negotiations, said she hoped Thunberg's presence would galvanize more ambitious commitments by governments at talks aimed at bolstering the 2015 Paris Agreement to avert catastrophic temperature increases. REUTERS

REUTERS

CARNEGIE HALL
PRESENTS
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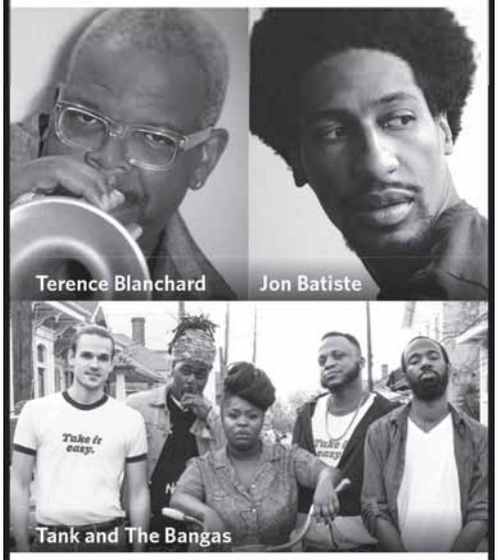

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Major support for the Angélique Kidjo Perspectives series has been provided by the Howard Gilman Foundation.

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Artists, programs, dates, and prices subject to change. © 2019 Carnegie Hall. Photos: Blanchard by Henry Adebonojo, Batiste by Abby Ross, Tank and The Bangas by Alex Marks.

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What to know about Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting

The famous tree will be illuminated on Wednesday.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

New York City is about to get lit, literally, as the famous Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree lighting ceremony is this week. This year marks the 87th year of the annual holiday celebration.

New York City's famous Rockefeller Tree is scheduled to be illuminated on Wednesday. If you're hoping to see the tree lighting be prepared this year, there will be some security restrictions and street closures. Also, prepare for the bitter cold.

NBC reports that spectators will have to pass through a security screening. It was reported that umbrellas, backpacks, large bags, coolers and alcoholic beverages are not allowed at the lighting.

Here's everything you need to know about the 2019 Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting.

When does the 2019 Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting occur? The Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting occurs on Dec. 4 from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Where did the 2019 Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree come from? This year's tree is a 77-foot tall Norway spruce, which came from Florida, New York. Florida, New York is about an hour and a half outside of midtown.

The tree is 60 years old and weighs 14 tons. It was donated by Carol Schultz. It will be wrapped in five miles of rainbow lights and topped with a 900-pound star, made from Swarovski crystals.

Where can I watch the 2019 Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting? To watch the lighting, check out NBC's "Christmas in Rockefeller Center," which will be on air from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Wednesday. You can also stream the famous event by checking out nbcnewyork.com/live.

Who is performing during the 2019 Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting? During the tree lighting event, you will see performances from a slew of celebs, including: John Legend, Derek & Julianne Hough, Brett Eldredge, Idina Menzel, Gwen Stefani, Lea Michele, Chicago, Ne-Yo, Straight No Chaser, Skylar Astin and Alex Newell.

When will the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree be illuminated? The tree's lights will be illuminated every day from 5:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. through Jan. 6. It will also be lit from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Jan. 7.

During Christmas Day, the tree will be lit for 24 hours.

After the tree is taken down on Jan. 7, it will be used as lumber for Habitat for Humanity.

What streets will be closed for the Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting?

See info to the right.

For updated information, check out nyc.gov.

Last year's tree at Rockefeller Center. GETTY IMAGES

According to the NYC Department of Transportation, the following roads will be closed to celebrate the 2019 Rockefeller Center Christmas Tree Lighting:

- 5th Avenue between 46th Street and 52nd Street
- 6th Avenue between 46th Street and 52nd Street
- 46th Street between 5th Avenue and 6th Avenue
- 47th Street between 5th Avenue and 6th Avenue
- 48th Street between 5th Avenue and 6th Avenue
- 49th Street between 5th Avenue and 6th Avenue
- 50th Street between 5th Avenue and 6th Avenue
- 51st Street between 5th Avenue and 6th Avenue
- 52nd Street between 5th Avenue and 6th Avenue
- Rockefeller Plaza between 48th Street and 51st Street

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Individuals or households who meet the income and household size requirements listed in the table below may apply. Qualified applicants will be required to meet additional selection criteria. Applicants who live in New York City receive a general preference for apartments.

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Studio		$2,156	36	→	1 person	$73,920 - $97,110
					2 people	$73,920 - $111,020
1 bedroom		$2,245	67	→	1 person	$76,972 - $97,110
					2 people	$76,972 - $111,020
					3 people	$76,972 - $124,930
2 bedrooms		$2,710	31	→	2 people	$92,915 - $111,020
					3 people	$92,915 - $124,930
					4 people	$92,915 - $138,710
					5 people	$92,915 - $149,890
3 bedrooms		$3,122	7	→	3 people	$107,040 - $124,930
					4 people	$107,040 - $138,710
					5 people	$107,040 - $149,890
					6 people	$107,040 - $160,940
					7 people	$107,040 - $172,120

1 Tenant is responsible for Electricity (including Cooking, Heat, and hot water)
2 Household size includes everyone who will live with you, including parents and children. Subject to occupancy criteria.
3 Household earnings includes salary, hourly wages, tips, Social Security, child support, and other income. Income guidelines subject to change.
4 Minimum income listed may not apply to applicants with Section 8 or other qualifying rental subsidies. Asset limits also apply.

How Do You Apply?

Apply online or through mail. To apply online, please go to nyc.gov/housingconnect. To request an application **by mail, send a self-addressed envelope to: Tax Solute Consulting C/O PLG 199 Lee Ave #903 Brooklyn NY 11211** Only send one application per development. Do not submit duplicate applications. Do not apply online and also send in a paper application. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

When is the Deadline?

Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than **February 3, 2020.** Late applications will not be considered.

What Happens After You Submit an Application?

After the deadline, applications are selected for review through a lottery process. If yours is selected and you appear to qualify, you will be invited to an appointment of eligibility to continue the process of determining your eligibility. Appointments are usually scheduled from 2 to 10 months after the application deadline. You will be asked to bring documents that verify your household size, identity of members of your household, and your household income.

Español

Presente una solicitud en línea en nyc.gov/housingconnect. Para recibir una traducción de español de este anuncio y la solicitud impresa, envíe un sobre con la dirección a: Tax Solute Consulting C/O PLG 199 Lee Ave # 903, Brooklyn, NY 11211. En el reverso del sobre, escriba en inglés la palabra "SPANISH." Las solicitudes se deben enviar en línea o con sello postal antes de 3 de febrero 2020.

简体中文

访问 nyc.gov/housingconnect 在线申请。如要获取本广告及书面申请表的简体中文版，请将您的回邮信封寄送至：Tax Solute Consulting C/O PLG 199 Lee Ave # 903, Brooklyn, NY 11211。 信封背面请用英语注明 "CHINESE"。必须在以下日期之前在线提交申请或邮寄书面申请2020 年2月3日。

Русский

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한국어

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Aplike sou entènèt sou sitwèb nyc.gov/housingconnect. Pou resevwa yon tradiksyon anons sa a nan lang Kreyòl Ayisyen ak aplikasyon an sou papye, voye anvlòp ki gen adrès pou retounen li nan: Tax Solute Consulting C/O PLG 199 Lee Ave # 903, Brooklyn, NY 11211 Nan dèyè anvlòp la, ekri mo *"HATIAN CREOLE"* an Anglè. Ou dwe remèt aplikasyon yo sou entènèt oswa ou dwe tenbre yo anvan dat 3 fevriye 2020.

العربية

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Reuters pictures of the decade

Stunning images depict a decade of global news.

From anti-government protests to war in Syria, Reuters photographers have covered the biggest news stories of the decade, capturing images of armed conflict, natural disasters, the plight of migrants and the drama of sport.

Here is a selection of some of the best Reuters pictures taken between 2010 and 2019. REUTERS

France's Ousmane Dembele, Presnel Kimpembe and Alphonse Areola celebrate winning the World Cup in the soccer World Cup Final match against Croatia at the Luzhniki Stadium, Moscow, Russia on July 15, 2018.

A demonstrator looks at a riot policeman during a protest marking the country's 1973 military coup in Santiago, Chile on September 11, 2016.

Smoke billows as fire engulfs the spire of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, France on April 15, 2019.

Displaced people from the minority Yazidi sect, fleeing violence from forces loyal to the Islamic State in Sinjar town, walk towards the Syrian border, on the outskirts of Sinjar mountain, near the Syrian border town of Elierbeh of Al-Hasakah Governorate, Iraq. August 11, 2014.

A lone tree stands near a water trough in a drought-effected paddock located on the outskirts of Walgett, in New South Wales, Australia on July 20, 2018.

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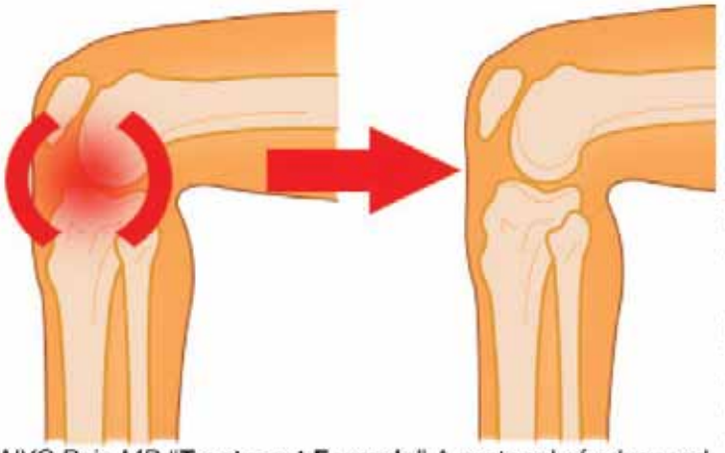
This means, *NYC Pain MD* has a detailed screening process to tell who is most likely to be helped by their treatments... and who is not.

If you qualify, you have the opportunity to move forward and experience the worldclass treatments that *NYC Pain MD* offers.

If you do not, *NYC Pain MD* will tell you what they think your best options are and help you find the right doctor for you.



NYC Pain MD "**Treatment Formula**" A protocol of advanced medical treatments that has already helped thousands.

If you qualify, NYC Pain MD offers some of the most advanced medical treatments available today all using the most advanced imaging technology including:

- Viscosupplementation (gel injections)
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- Genicular Knee Block
- And more.

Once again, there is not enough space to go into detail about all these procedures... but here are some things you MUST KNOW....

Viscosupplementation is where a doctor introduces a gel-like medicine directly into the joint space. This helps to lubricate the joints often relieving some, most or even all of your pain. Results can last for 6 months to several years.

Many have had these treatments *without* good results. However, *NYC Pain MD* feels this is because doctors often do these "gel injections" without advanced imaging to guide them. Research shows they will often miss the joint. If the joint is missed... it is impossible for the treatment to work.

NYC Pain MD has spared no expense and used advanced imaging to guide the injections assuring the medicine gets into the joint. We frequently get results when this treatment was a failure done elsewhere.

The second thing you must know is... our treatment plans are custom made for every patent. And we have all these treatments offered in the same place. Many times you will get the best results from multiple treatments. At *NYC Pain MD* your doctors will all be there and will all know each other and you and your case. They work together and give you the best treatments and care without you having to go anywhere else.

The ability to select the right patients and then have the potential to give them any or all of these treatments... with all the necessary medical technology... under one roof... has allowed *NYC Pain MD* to get better results than they thought possible.

Here's What You Should Do Next

If you suffer with knee pain... and any of this made sense to you... *NYC Pain MD* would like to offer you a No-cost screening. That screening is the first step in our "Treatment Formula."

You will get to see a doctor and ask any questions you have. Your doctor will take the first steps to see if you qualify for treatments and give you recommendations.

The best thing is... you will finally get direction. You will know what's going on and what is your best course of action… step-by-step. The treatments will be explained in detail and you will breathe a big sigh of relief finally knowing what's going on and what can or cannot be done.

There is so much we want to say to help you... but I'm out of space. Give us a call at ***877-296-6310*** and take the first step. That step is free without obligation.

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Facebook's Holiday Pop-Up launched on Giving Tuesday to highlight the Military Mama Network

Dedicated to supporting veterans and their families, Geriann Wiesbrook's group was founded in 2013 and has grown to over 16,000 members. This holiday season, Facebook is partnering with Military Mamas to help raise funds and support. GETTY IMAGES

1 Military Mamas founder Geriann Wiesbrook poses at the Facebook Holiday Pop-Up in SoHo, Manhattan on December 3, 2019 in New York City.

2 Signs and tablets encourage visitors to donate.

3 The entrance to the Facebook Holiday Pop-Up in SoHo.

4 Deluxe hot chocolate is served at the Facebook Holiday Pop-Up.

5 A QR code allows visitors to instantly donate.

U.S. Senator Kamala Harris ends 2020 presidential bid

U.S. Senator Kamala Harris. REUTERS

U.S. Senator Kamala Harris ended her 2020 presidential bid on Tuesday, abandoning a campaign that began with promise for a rising Democratic Party star but faltered as she struggled to raise money and make a compelling case for her candidacy.

Her departure further narrows the field of White House contenders exactly two months before voting begins in Iowa, the first nominating contest, and gives her rivals a chance to court Harris' supporters in their final bids to shore up the nomination.

Harris, 55, the only minority woman in the race, would have been the first woman and second black U.S. president if elected next November.

$9M

Kamala Harris finished September with $9 million in cash, according to finance disclosures her campaign filed. By comparison, Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren had nearly $26 million at that point.

The senator from California positioned herself as a unifying candidate who could energize the party's base of young, diverse progressives while also appealing to more moderate voters.

Yet after climbing into double digits in opinion polls following a strong debate performance in June, Harris slid out of the top tier in recent months and lagged behind leading candidates' fundraising hauls.

"I've taken stock and looked at this from every angle, and over the last few days have come to one of the hardest decisions of my life," Harris said in an email to supporters on Tuesday. "My campaign for president simply doesn't have the financial resources we need to continue."

Harris finished September with $9 million in cash, according to finance disclosures her campaign filed. By comparison, Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren had nearly $26 million at that point.

Harris' campaign recently began showing signs of trouble, including stagnant fundraising and public complaints by former staffers that her staff was being treated poorly.

"She just hasn't quite satisfactorily answered the 'what makes you better than the other candidates' question," said a longtime aide, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "That's the underlying biggest thing. She hasn't quite sufficiently explained her rationale for herself."

Joel Payne, an African-American strategist who worked for Democrat Hillary Clinton in the 2016 presidential campaign, said Harris failed to find her own identity as she tried to own the space on the political spectrum between progressives such as U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders and Warren and moderates such as former Vice President Joe Biden.

"I think she probably ended up alienating both" camps, he said.

Harris was polling badly in her home state of California – which will vote on "Super Tuesday" in March, an early important election day when 16 states will hold primary contests.

Payne said Harris exited the race at the right time before potentially embarrassing losses.

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The Hold Steady celebrate 4 'Massive Nights' at Brooklyn Bowl

We caught up with lead singer Craig Finn about their newest album and the future of the band.

PAT KING
patrick.king@metro.us

I'll spare you the details, but in a lot of ways, the past decade or so of living in Brooklyn has felt like a song that only Craig Finn could write.

The music Finn has written with his band The Hold Steady has told stories of parties that never end (even when you desperately them to) and have included unreliable narrators that may not deserve your sympathy. These stories are barked in rapid-fire prose by Finn over lean bar band riffs that recall if bands like Thin Lizzy and The E Street band had incorporated '90s indie rock into their DNA. These days, the band has slowed down touring considerably while Finn has spent more time on the road promoting his fantastic solo career. Instead of wearing themselves out on extensive trips around the globe, the band has opted to make annual stops in major markets for three to four nights.

With the band's first new release in five years, "Thrashing Thru the Passion," they will be returning to Brooklyn Bowl tonight for their fourth annual "Massive Nights" celebration, which will see them playing four nights in a row, each with a different opener. I recently spoke with Finn over the phone to talk about the new Hold Steady album and the state of the band.

A lot of the songs that are included on the new album were originally released as singles over the past two years. Was the initial intention to keep them as singles or did you always have a full-length album in mind?
The way that we've been recording, we did 4 songs or 5 songs at a time. So at first, it all started in this very practical and small manner. It was like, 'Oh, we have these songs. Let's just put them out?' There was this funny moment when we were doing these Chicago shows. We had three shows and each night we were going to learn a cover of a Chicago band. The first night was a Cheap Trick song, the second night was a Wilco song, and then the last night was a STYX song. We were learning the STYX song - which is a band that I don't particularly like - and I was like, 'There's got to be a better use of our time than learning songs by STYX (laughs).' So I was like, 'Let's make our own songs. We've done that before, we haven't done that in a while.' So we did that, and recorded it.

It's sort of a thing, from the business end of things, that we know where our fans are. We know how to get to them, whether through social media, our email lists or whatever. So, we can deliver music to a significant amount of people, who are interested, digitally. There is something kind of exciting about that. It just started as a small thing. Let's record some songs and send them out to the fans, basically. But as it had gone on, vinyl people are interested in vinyl. A body of work started to emerge and it seemed like we should collect these on a piece. Then what happened was, in January of 2019 we went up and recorded five songs and all of the sudden those five songs sounded like the first side of an album. So, it was like 'Well, why don't we make this the first side of an album and then we'll use some of the other songs to round out the LP?' Then the other four songs are coming out on the Record Store Day thing coming out this Friday.

Did you find that this process was reinvigorating for the band? Do you see The Hold Steady recording like this in the future?
Yeah, I think we'll just keep recording. I don't know if we'll feel tied down to one method of releasing music over another. We'll just keep doing what we do. It's a different world out there. With technology and streaming and all that, It's silly to be like, 'We're gonna always do it the same way.' It just doesn't seem necessary or really that smart. We'll figure out what we want to do with the next stuff that we record. I'm sure we'll put stuff out digitally and we'll put stuff out on vinyl as well.

For me, I have always viewed your depictions of characters in The Hold Steady as sleazy warnings as opposed to the solo work which seems like you take a more sympathetic approach to similar characters after they've experienced the fallout of those bad decisions.
I think that's somewhat right. I always say that with The Hold Steady, that people are making bad decisions and following them belligerently to their logical and terrible conclusions. The solo stuff, a lot of the times, people are trying to do the right things but for whatever reason, they're having a hard time keeping their heads above water and failing in some way. I really think the last three solo records have been extremely, and successfully, empathetic. That was my intention with them and I think we got there.

I can only imagine how fun it can be to slip back into the zone of writing these outrageous and debaucherous characters with The Hold Steady as opposed to the seriousness of your solo work.
Yeah, The Hold Steady universe kind of exists at 130%, you know? I feel less concerned for those characters, maybe. It's fun. The Hold Steady has a little more fun and dark humor that I'm trying to tap into when I'm writing.

With the way that The Hold Steady are slowing down touring with these annual multiple-night stints, it kind of reminds me of the way that some established jam bands would normally tour.
There is some part of it that we took from the jam band world. That's how the Grateful Dead used to tour. They'd roll around annually. Now we play annually in Brooklyn and annually in London. We have these posts that we build our year on. It's really nice! Sometimes on social media, you'll see someone upset that you're not coming to their smaller towns. But, these weekends we have done is a part of reinvigorating the band. It's taken a lot of unnecessary travel and some of the exhausting and less fun things about being in a band out of it. We try to do shows in places that are good to go to. This year we played in Seattle, Nashville, Chicago, Brooklyn and London. These are all places that are good destinations. So if people want to hang with us, we're providing a good place to do it. I think largely our audiences are in the bigger cities. It's been really successful for us to do things this way and I think we are going to continue to do things this way.

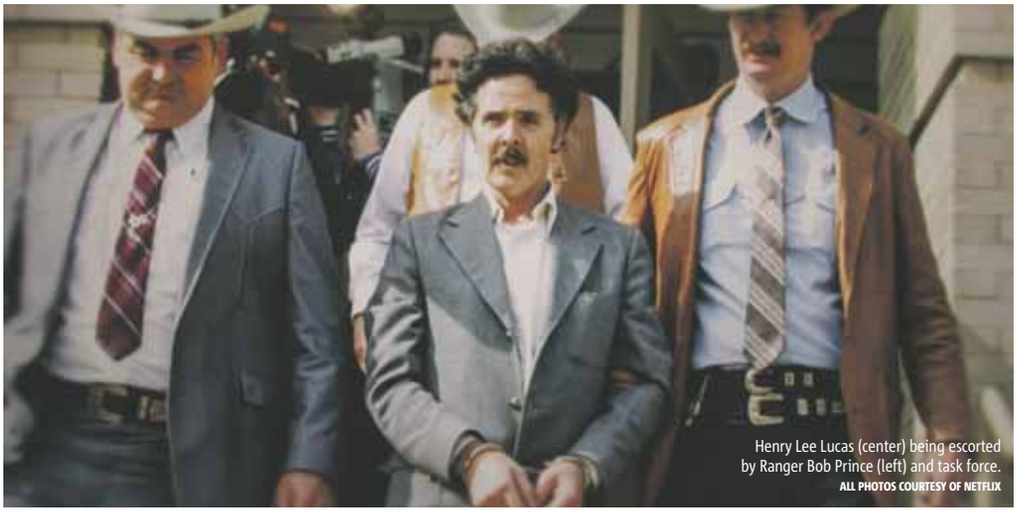
It might leave some of the smaller towns off of the list, but I think that anyone who comes to one of the weekends I think gets it. It also creates such a community. We're doing several shows in a row and people are going to several shows in a row. They're meeting other fans. I think that's the coolest thing. I saw it a lot this summer, people that I knew didn't know each other but they meet on Thursday and by Saturday night before that third show they're out getting dinner together. This is kind of what it's all about. Creating that community around the band.

Make sure to check out The Hold Steady at Brooklyn Bowl starting tonight through this Saturday. 61 Wythe Ave. Brooklyn. www.brooklynbowl.com

A perfect storm of unbelievable circumstances

Filmmakers Robert Kenner and Taki Oldham talk the insane story of false serial killer Henry Lee Lucas.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us



Henry Lee Lucas (center) being escorted by Ranger Bob Prince (left) and task force.
ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF NETFLIX

What happens when a murder is closed? More times than not, most people are happy with that result, it brings a sense of relief to the victim's family and makes community members feel safe knowing a violent criminal is behind bars. But what if the killer behind bars didn't really commit the crime, even after a confession? It sounds pretty crazy right? But that has happened, hundreds of times — and that's just counting false confessions from one man. "The Confession Killer" examines the psychological phenomenon behind Henry Lee Lucas, who in 1983 began a confession spree claiming to be the culprit behind upwards of 600 murders. Now, the once-deemed worst serial killer in the country is proving to be nothing more than a man who had a knack for lying and a desire to please. Filmmakers Robert Kenner and Taki Oldham teamed up to uncover the almost unbelievable story behind Lucas and sat down with Metro to give more insight on the insanely unhinged tale that is quite frankly stranger than fiction.

What initially drove you both to make this docuseries about Henry Lee Lucas?

TO: I had seen a true-crime documentary back in 2014, and it posed the question that if Lucas didn't kill all of these people, then who did? Way back then it was seen as an unanswerable question. DNA evidence has since come around, and sure enough, there have now been some isolated cases that no one was linking. There was a case here or a case there

Joyce Lemons, mother of alleged Lucas victim Debbie Sue Willamson, holding her daughter's high school graduation photo.

where DNA was actually finding the real killer, so to me, it felt like an opportunity to tell a new chapter of this story and start to get some answers. From there I did a bit of research and spoke to Robbie who saw this as a much bigger story.

RK: What I thought was so fascinating, with each case they would say "Oh, we got it wrong and it wasn't Henry." But they didn't put together that dozens of cases turned out to not be Henry. So there's a question that we were putting together that no one else was, which is how could this have happened? Here is the worst serial killer in US history, and yet every case is proving that Henry didn't do it. We just found that fascinating. Combine that with the conversations we had with victim's family members and the pain that they're going through of not being able to determine who really killed their loved ones, and there really is just an amazing series here. We spent about a year and a half on it before Netflix got involved, so it was about five years in the making. We got some incredible footage and everyone that we spoke to remembered this as an extremely important moment in their lives, we just had a wealth of material to work with which is extraordinary.

Was there anything that completely took you by surprise while working on this project?

TO: I was really shocked the whole way.

RK: Everything was shocking, it's a jaw-dropping story. We had all this footage of this murderer who murdered hundreds of people sitting in the sheriff's office, answering the telephone, drinking coffee and with no handcuffs on — something looked wrong. The story was constantly surprising us and riveting us. It's a story you don't normally get to tell. It goes beyond just being about a serial killer, it's about a system and the psychology behind how this happened.

Both Henry Lee Lucas and [Sheriff] Jim Boutwell have passed away, is there a part of you that wishes you had the opportunity to speak to them?

RK: On some levels, we have as much of Henry as you could ever really need. We had hours and hours more, so I feel like Henry's voice comes through loud and clear. I think on other levels that's true of Boutwell too. What's interesting about Boutwell is that every one of his cases was overturned. Henry did not commit one of the five cases that Boutwell said he did, that's a bad record to have been proven. In the series, Bob Prince did not like that we were treating Boutwell badly, he even said he wished Boutwell were here to defend himself.

TO: If I could ask Boutwell one question, I'd be interested to ask him if he would do anything differently or what he would think about things now, given what happened with DNA. Even after Lucas had recanted and evidence had come out, he never changed his story. Would we hear anything different from him? I tend to think not.

RK: We did ask Bob Prince if he would do anything differently, and he said no. I can totally understand how Boutwell and Prince were fooled by Lucas, but I am concerned that he may think we shouldn't do anything differently today with no desire to re-open anything. It's not easy to re-open cases. When you have a closed case in your department you look good, but when you have a case that you really didn't solve, you still owe it to constituents to find the truth.

Why do you think there were so many miscarriages of justice involved with this story?

TO: I think it was the perfect storm, you have a guy who for whatever reason decided to tell the world that he was the worst serial killer to ever live. You then have a police agency who was willing to believe him, and you have hundreds of other police and family members all over the country who just wanted cases solved and were probably a little too willing to believe it.

RK: Henry had an IQ of 87, but there was also something about Henry that was really smart and very convincing — plus he liked to please. Boutwell wanted to find a murderer and Henry was happy to play the role. It's not that we're uncovering a great conspiracy, we're looking at a psychological drama that we found incredibly fascinating.

"The Confession Killer" drops on Netflix on Dec. 6.

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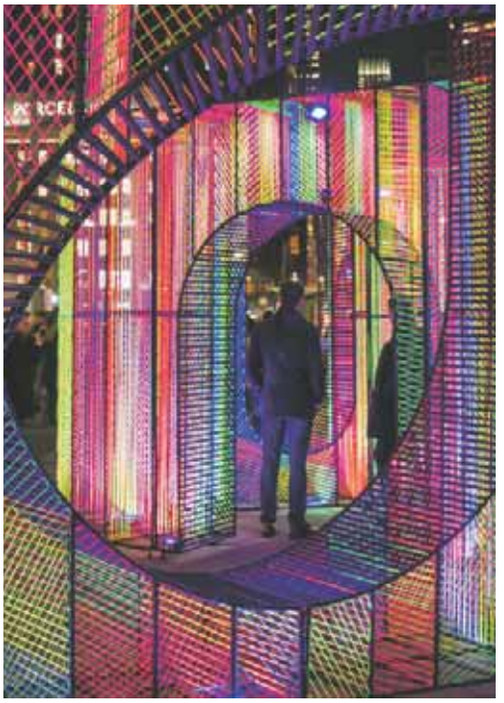
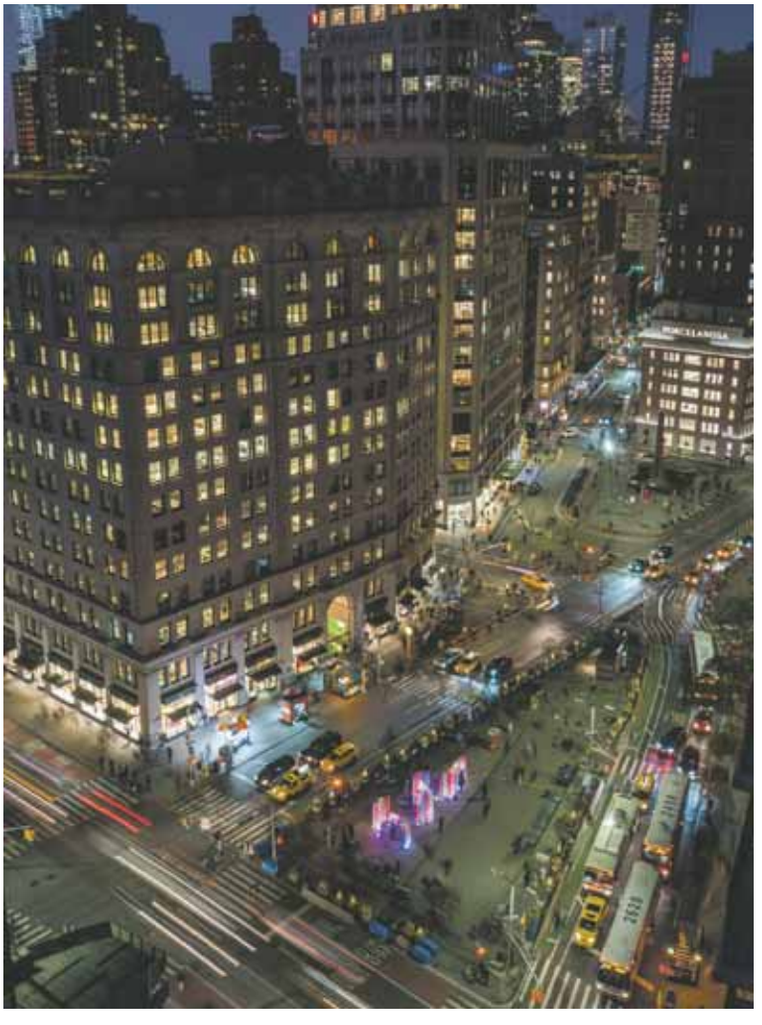
This is what the installation developed by Hou de Sousa looks like during the day. ALL PHOTOS CAMERON BLAYLOCK



'Ziggy' at the Flatiron North Public Plaza

A bright and colorful public art installation was recently opened at the Flatiron North Public Plaza just in time for the beginning of the Christmas season. This is Ziggy, an installation by New York company Hou de Sousa, which was selected last week as the winner of the annual Flatiron Public Plaza Holiday Design Competition. The kaleidoscopic installation will be exhibited for the public until January 1, 2020. **MWN**



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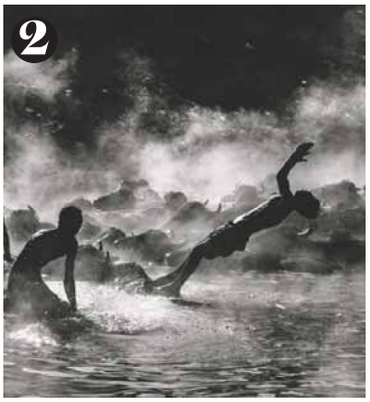

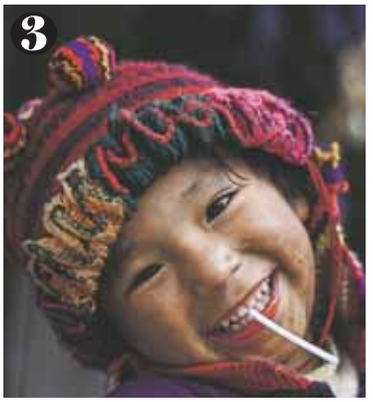

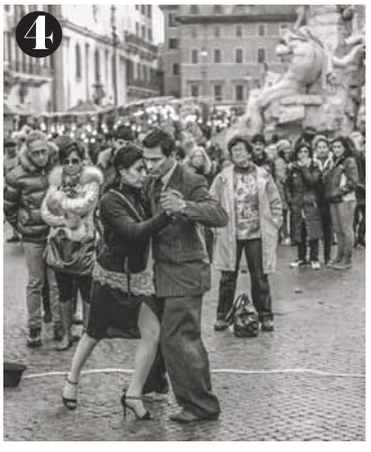

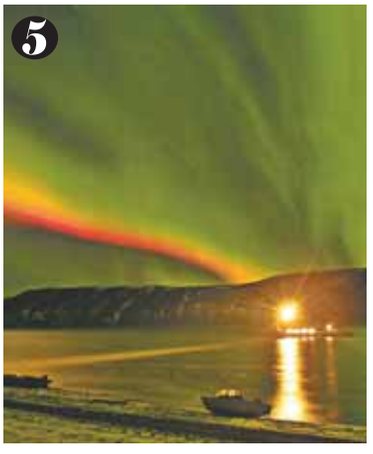

These photos received the most votes during the final week of Metro Photo Challenge 2019.

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Photo by: Pouya / Iran.

2 Water and life
Photo by: Musa TALASLİ / Turkey.

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SPORTS

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Yankees to meet with Strasburg, Cole

In search of an ace, the Yankees will sit down with the two best arms on the market this week.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

If the Yankees and general manager Brian Cashman do miss out on the top free agent pitchers this winter, it won't be for a lack of trying.

Per Ken Rosenthal of The Athletic, the Yankees will meet with both Gerrit Cole and Stephen Strasburg this week ahead of Major League Baseball's Winter Meetings in San Diego.

They are hardly the only suitors in the sweepstakes for both arms. The interest in two of the best pitchers in baseball will be considerably heavy over the next couple of weeks.

Granted, the track history of such talented arms on the free agent market suggests that their signings won't come until the calendar flips to 2020.

Cole, 29, couldn't have picked a better year to hit the open market after a barnstorming campaign with the Houston Astros. He finished second in the American League Cy Young voting to teammate Justin Verlander after going 20-5 with a 2.50 ERA and a league-leading 326 strikeouts.

He was only the 18th pitcher since 1900 to record at least 300 strikeouts in a season.

Cole is poised to become the richest pitcher in baseball with a contract that could come in at over $220 million.

In the nation's capital, Strasburg is finally meeting the high expectations that he was saddled with a decade ago as the No. 1 overall pick by the Nationals.

After countless injuries and innings limits, the 31-year old led the National League with 18 wins in 2019 on his way to winning the World Series MVP.

This was just the second time in 10 MLB seasons that he eclipsed the 200-inning mark, but the righty has been consistent over the past four seasons. He's 58-21 with a 3.25 ERA while posting an average of 198 strikeouts per season during that stretch.

While he won't go for as high as Cole, Strasburg's new contract could come in anywhere between $150 million and $175 million.

The Yankees are doing their due diligence after starting pitching once again developed into the Achilles heel of a legitimate World Series contender.

Luis Severino has yet to emerge as a bonafide staff ace — although an injury-riddled 2019 certainly didn't help his case — while James Paxton's inconsistent debut in the Bronx has caused some second-guessing on whether or not he could be the No. 2 arm the staff so desperately needs.

J.A. Happ fizzled out in his return to the organization and Masahiro Tanaka continues to be an enigma.

A legitimate ace to put at the No. 1 spot would see the rotation fall into near-perfect order to make them the overwhelming favorites to come out of the American League.

It remains to be seen, however, if owner Hal Steinbrenner would be willing to put up that kind of money for Cole or Strasburg. He's been adamant about his unwillingness to stray too far past the luxury tax threshold.

This was the case last season when the Yankees whiffed on Bryce Harper and Manny Machado — baseball's top two free agents who went to Philadelphia and San Diego, respectively.

Adding one of these starters this winter would see the Yankees go well above it. Per Spotrac, the Yankees have about $3.6 million in luxury tax space available.

Fizdale firing coming 'soon' for Knicks

GETTY IMAGES

The writing was on the wall for David Fizdale's termination as Knicks head coach as soon as Steve Mills and Scott Perry's impromptu press conference last month.

But now, it seems as though the end is near.

A source within the Knicks organization told SNY's Ian Begley that Fizdale will be fired "soon," though that information was divulged to him toward the end of November.

"Soon," however, might not be soon enough for plenty of Knicks fans. Especially after the debacle that was Monday night.

The Knicks were run out of the gym in Milwaukee by the Bucks in a 44-point loss, 132-88, in by far their poorest effort of the season.

Saying they were going through the motions would be a compliment as Fizdale's men were unenthused and lifeless.

He even admitted so after the game.

"Whatever word you want to use for it: lack of tenacity, intensity, focus, competitiveness. I don't feel like we came into this game believing we could win this game and that was what was most disappointing," Fizdale said (h/t Steve Popper of Newsday). "I don't know why. But it was definitely there. We didn't come out with the right mindset for whatever reason, whatever my motivational talk was didn't take hold I guess."

That's quite the indictment on the coach and his inability to get anything out of his players.

Monday night's meeting with the Bucks — considered by many as the best team in the East — was Fizdale's 103rd as Knicks head coach.

He's now lost an entire season's worth of games as his record stands at 21-82. The .204 winning percentage is the lowest in franchise history.

Since Perry and Mills' press conference, the Knicks are 2-9, which will only add more heat to the team president and general manager — who are in no way safe from the ax, either.

For a leadership duo that spent $70 million in free agency over the summer, a 4-17 record through 21 games is laughably bad. That's par for the course when it comes to the Knicks' standing within the NBA, however.

With plenty of blame to be squared upon all three Knicks names under pressure, Fizdale will be the first to go to buy Mills and Perry some more time under the eye of James Dolan.

At this point, we're just playing the waiting game. JOE PANTORNO

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Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated September 07, 2018 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Supreme Courthouse in Courtroom #25, 88-11 Sutphin Boulevard, Jamaica, New York, on December 20, 2019 at 10:30AM, premises known as 195 BEACH 29TH STREET, FAR ROCKAWAY, NY 11691.
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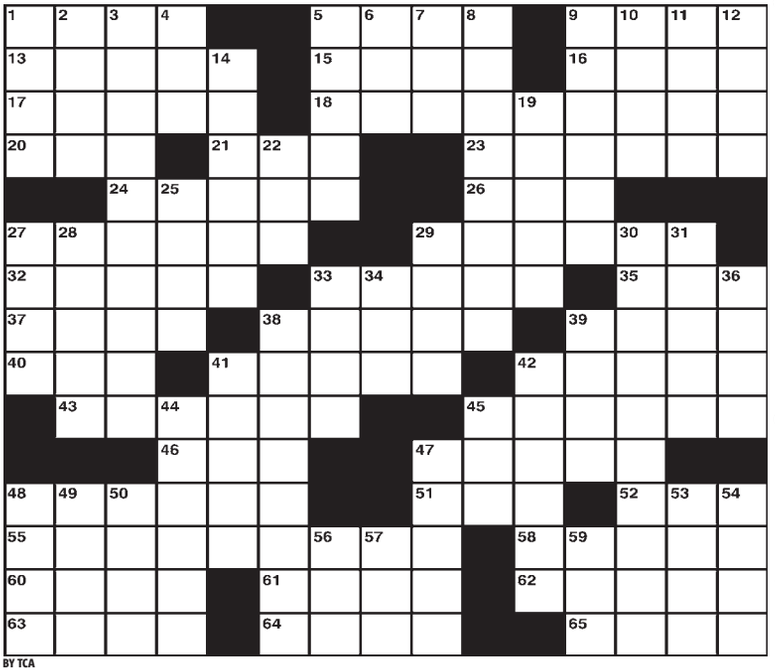
9 Skinny
13 Church volunteer
15 Go suddenly off course
16 Bagel's center
17 One of the Obamas
18 Easy to get along with
20 Jungle beast
21 Rotten
23 Clap cuffs on
24 U.S. state capital
26 "We're off to __ the Wizard..."
27 Weds without fanfare
29 Univ. of Arizona's location
32 Church ceremonies
33 __ with; make eyes at
35 Feathery scarf
37 Computer screen symbol
38 Snail's secretion
39 Drain problem
40 One of the Kardashians
41 Highways
42 Self-confidence
43 Business magnate
45 __ in; intruded
46 Shack
47 Sri __
48 Cry from one who's fed up
51 Lock, stock __ barrel
52 Morning hour
55 Egotistical
58 Pueblo brick
60 Boulder
61 Actress Patricia
62 Folks from Belgrade
63 Guitar cousins, for short
64 Entryway
65 Fluid-filled sac

DOWN
1 Cougar
2 Letters of urgency
3 Blood-drawer's field
4 Start of a vowel list
5 Stay away from
6 Actress Ryan
7 Suffix for mess or sass
8 R.L. Stevenson's "__ Island"
9 Is generous
10 Brain division
11 Woes
12 TV's "__ the Press"
14 Danger from a dog bite
19 Construct
22 Primitive transport
25 Daytime shop window sign
27 Actor Estrada
28 Legal
29 Allen & McGraw
30 Imperative; required
31 Lasso's loop
33 Custard with a caramel glaze
34 "Put a __ on it!"; cry of annoyance
36 No longer youthful
38 Comforting
39 Wine bottle topper
41 Cheek coloring
42 Bamboo-eating critters
44 Schumer & Grassley
45 Refuse entry to
47 Soup server's need
48 Earth tone
49 Secluded recess
50 __ more; again
53 Declines
54 TV's "Empty __"
56 Actress Leoni
57 Polish off
59 Part of today's date: abbr.



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horoscopes

Aries Refuse to succumb to negativity. If someone close to you is feeling down, be the one who inspires him or her to keep going.

Taurus Look for adventure and friends who want to share the excitement with you. Someone unique will find his or her way into your heart. Explore what life has to offer.

Gemini Keep your plans secret until you have everything in place. If you are too quick to share, someone will steal your idea or try to take command.

Cancer Travel and educational pursuits will enlighten you. Look for a unique opportunity to put your skills to work for you. A positive change is heading your way.

Leo Financial gain will depend on how you manage your spending habits. Resist temptation and don't try to buy favors or make an impression on someone with lavish gifts.

Virgo A change will be useful for you. Visit a place you've never been before and expose yourself to something you've never previously experienced.

Libra Organize your time and set up a routine that will help you bring about a positive personal change. Do your best to ease stress and make room for what's important to you.

Scorpio Enjoyment and satisfaction should be your focus. Don't put the blame elsewhere when you should be making the adjustments needed to achieve your dreams. Romance is encouraged.

Sagittarius Stop others from infringing on your time, space or accomplishments. Make situations fit your needs and ask whoever gets in your way to pitch in and help.

Capricorn Keep going; you are so close to winning. With a little help from loved ones, you can beat any challenge you face. Romance will enhance your day.

Aquarius An innovative idea will strike a chord with you and encourage you to parlay what you discover into something worthwhile. Turn something you enjoy doing into a moneymaker.

Pisces If you follow your intuition, you won't be disappointed. One of your skills can be used to get ahead. If you set trends, you'll gain popularity. Physical improvements will lead to compliments. EUGENIA LAST

metro.us/wordsearch

Z	N	A	M	S	G	N	I	K	M
A	O	N	G	R	I	T	O	B	C
I	K	S	W	O	B	E	L	R	R
D	R	S	Q	U	Q	H	A	I	T
M	J	O	G	E	X	Z	P	D	R
F	U	Y	N	B	Y	D	N	G	A
F	F	T	T	M	D	U	D	E	E
E	L	R	O	Y	A	L	E	S	H
J	N	U	R	I	Q	N	R	Z	H
Y	L	E	G	A	C	Y	R	W	D

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				8	4		2	1
	8	2	1				9	
	4	1	8					
3		5		6		4		8
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	5				6	1	4	
6	3		4	1				
				5		9	8	

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